with: 'Hallo, Scullin, it's the Old Boy calling!'? In the case of Lord Craigavon and Mr. de Valera such an approach was unlikely to be appreciated; the one preferred resolution to joviality, and the other, history.

To recover the money due under the land annuities, it was decided to impose a twenty per cent tariff on imports from the Irish Free State; and Mr. de Valera retaliated by an equivalent tariff on imports from Great Britain. Trade between the two countries stagnated; the Irish had no alternative but to eat the large quantity of meat and dairy produce they were unable to export, and though some British industries, notably coal, were damaged by Mr. de Valera's retaliatory tariff, import duties collected on Irish produce coming into England realised the requisite sum.

There the matter stood for some years, during which *Mr.* de Valera earnestly proceeded as far as possible to make the Free State, later re-named Eire, a self-governing republic, though without persecuting the Protestant minority, who, by the standards of most contemporary rulers, might have expected to suffer at his hands. With his devout Catholicism, alliance with the Irish Labour Party, enduring popularity unsustained by terrorism or the curtailment of civil liberties, approval of General Franco, occasional appearances at Geneva to rebuke Covenant-breakers, and successful defiance of Great Britain, he has pre-sented ideologues with an insoluble problem. He fits none of their categories, yet might be fitted into any. The Soviet Press fell back on labelling him a kulak, a category which comprises

miscellaneous divergencies from ideological correctitude rather in the same way that mental cruelty, as a ground for divorce, comprises miscellaneous divergencies from marital correctitude.

An agreement in 1935, whose effect was to increase Irish imports of British coal and British imports of Irish cattle, prepared the way for a general settlement in 1938. By the terms of this settlement, negotiated by Mr. Malcolm MadDonald, whose interest in bird-watching was reported to have contributed to its successful conclusion, ^10,000,000 was paid to the British